

VZCZCXYZ0007  
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHNC #0736 3231446  
ZNY CCCCC ZZH  
R 191446Z NOV 09  
FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC 0314  
INFO RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 1553

C O N F I D E N T I A L NICOSIA 000736

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/SE, IO/UNP ANDREW MORRISON

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/18/2019  
TAGS: [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [KPAL](#) [IS](#) [SY](#) [LE](#) [CY](#)  
SUBJECT: (C) CYPRUS: NO PROMISES ON UNGA RESOLUTIONS WITH  
ANTI-ISRAEL BIAS

REF: A. STATE 118799  
[1](#)B. NICOSIA 694

Classified By: DCM Jonathan R. Cohen for Reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)

[1](#)1. (C) Polchief delivered reftel points November 19 to Cyprus MFA Head of the Department of Multilateral Affairs and International Organizations Michalis Stavrinou. Stavrinou emphasized Cyprus' sensitivity when it came to matters touching upon "occupied lands," calling it an existential issue. He cited the example of a previous year when Cyprus voted against a Golan resolution, claiming it cost the GOC "credibility" when approaching some countries on the Cyprus issue, both within the EU and outside.

[1](#)2. (C) Stavrinou did not want to "pre-judge" that a consensus no longer existed on the three UN institutions in question. Noting Cyprus had hosted a meeting earlier this year under the auspices of the Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People, he argued that it was better to have more "friendly" nations active in the committee to manage the agenda and keep things more moderate and constructive. "The Iranians didn't open their mouths when they realized the atmosphere," according to Stavrinou. On the Division for Palestinian Rights, he wondered if that could be addressed in discussions about UN administrative arrangements or internal structure. Cyprus had not yet taken a position on the third UN body, on which it had abstained last year; he agreed to inform post if more information became available. When queried about Cyprus' recent vote for the UNGA resolution on the Goldstone report, despite his previewing his belief Cyprus would stay neutral (reftel B), he noted that there may have been a change in the "atmospherics" in New York. (Comment: Cyprus likely calculated at the end that the GOC had enough EU company to vote for the resolution. End comment.) Stavrinou agreed to encourage his delegation in New York to be in touch with the U.S. delegation on these issues.  
URBANCIC